(b) to (f) Detailed information shall be laid on the Table of the House after the Special Team has completed its work.

Details for calculating the overcharged amounts

655. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of INUDSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drug companies overcharged the consumers and as per the provisions of Drugs Prices Control Order, 1979, the overcharged amount is to be deposited into the Drug Prices equalisation Accounts;

(b) if so, what is the total amount worked out under various provisions of DPCO, 1979 and how much has been recovered;

(c) by when the total amount due will be worked out and recovered;

(d) what are the reasons for delay and what steps have been taken to make immediate recoveries of the public funds;

(e) whether it is a fact that a number of drug companies have still to provide the details as asked for working out the overcharged amounts;

(f) if so, what are the names of those companies and what steps have been taken to obtain the details; and

(g) by when all the details required will be obtained?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) Some of the companies by obtaining stay in the Delhi High Court continued to sell the drugs at their own prices.

(b) Detailed information shall be laid on the Table of the House after the Special Team has completed its work.

(c) to (g) The amounts due from the companies would be recovered on receipt of the Reports from the Special Team which has been constituted to determine the amounts recoverable from the companies involved in the Court cases.

Inclusion of drugs under price control

656. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kelkar Committee in its Supplementary Report have recommended for re-inclusion of certain drugs under price control;

(b) if so, what are the names of such drugs and how many have so far been included under price control; and

(c) by when all the recommended drugs will be included under price control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of the Committee in this regard are to be considered by the Government.

Committee on DPEA

657. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has set up a high power

Committee on Drug Prices Equalisation Account;

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference and who are the members of the Committee;

(c) whether it is a fact that all issues regarding set offs on account of samples and Government sales have already been decided by Ministry of Law in the years 1985 and 1986 and by the High Court in the case of Gentamycin;

(d) whether it is a fact that his Ministry neither worked out the amount due nor even collected the date from the drug companies which overcharged the public;

(e) whether it is a fact that by setting up of the Committee there would be delay in the recovery; and

(f) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : (a) to (f) The Government has constituted a Group which after going through the representations received by the Government from various drug companies or Drug Industry Associations would make suggestions to the Government in order to determine a policy which could be uniformly applied in connection with the claims against various manufacturing companies arising under para 7(2) of DPCO, 1979.

The opinion of the Ministry of Law in regard to set off etc. would be taken into consideration by the Government while taking the final decision on the recommendations of the Group. The final judgement of the Delhi High Court in respect of the case filed by M/s. Fulford (India) Ltd. is still awaited.

Demand and production of LPG

658. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total annual requirement of LPG in the country, particularly in the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the annual production of LPG in our country and what steps are being taken to meet the requirement;

(c) whether the ONGC propose to set up LPG plants in Gujarat and Assam; and

(d) whether there is also a proposal pending with Government to have a LPG plant at Cauveri basin in Tamil Nadu and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) During 1989-90, the demand of LPG in the country (including Tamil Nadu) and Tamil Nadu is estimated at 2.11 million tonnes and 0.19 million tonnes respectively.

(b) During 1989-90, the production of LPG in the country is estimated at 1.83 million tonnes; the deficit/shortfall is planned to be met by imports.

(c) No new proposal in this regard has been received by the Government.

(d) Proposals have been received for production of around 18,000 tonnes of LPG per annum from the Natural Gas that would be available in Cauveri Basin.

Setting up of oil refinery at Thanjavur

659. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister